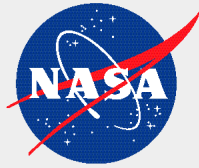


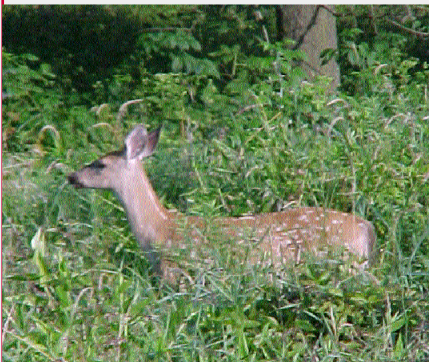
Environmental Studies



NASA Glenn Research Center Plum Brook Station

▶ The Reactor Facility & Decommissioning

Since the start of the Reactor Facility in 1962, NASA has provided strict supervision of the facility, as part of its commitment to the protection of the health and safety of workers and the public. Consistent with this commitment, NASA has conducted an Environmental Assessment, as one of the many steps it is taking to ensure the safe and thorough decommissioning of the Reactor Facility.



Plum Brook Station is home to a wide array of healthy plant and animal life.

This Environmental Assessment (EA), conducted as part of NASA's requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act, outlines the proposed actions or activities that may possibly have a significant impact on the human environment. An EA concisely documents possible environmental impacts of the proposed action and determines measures to reduce or eliminate impacts. It is also used to support a decision of whether an Environmental Impact Statement is required to be prepared.

▶ The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) establishes a national policy for enhancing and preserving the environment. As part of the NEPA process, a review of potential environmental impacts is required in the early stages of planning a major federal environmental action that has the potential to significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

NEPA REQUIRES FEDERAL AGENCIES TO:

Consider the environmental impacts of major federal projects or decisions before spending federal money, issuing permits, and taking actions that affect federal land.

Share information about environmental impacts with decision makers, public officials and citizens before decisions are made and actions are taken.

Identify and assess reasonable alternatives that are technically and economically feasible, and can be accomplished in the necessary timeframe. The No-Action alternative is also considered.

Integrate and coordinate with any other planning and environmental reviews that are taking place.